

### **REMARKS**

Claims 24-38 are pending in the instant application. No amendments have been made by way of this response. Thus, no new matter has been added.

The only remaining rejections in the instant application are the rejections of Claims 24-38 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-3 and 5-8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,677,138; over Claims 1-4, 6-13 and 15-27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,420,140; over Claims 1-4 and 6-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,207,418; over Claims 1-4 and 6-11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,916,771; and over Claims 50, 51, 56, 58-65, 67 and 69-74 of copending Application No. 10/155,839.

Regarding the rejection over Claims 50, 51, 56, 58-65, 67 and 69-74 of copending Application No. 10/155,839, Applicants submit that the Application No. 10/155,839 has been abandoned. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Additionally, regarding the rejections over claims in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,677,138, 6,420,140, 6,207,418, and 5,916,771, Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer that disclaims the terminal portion of any patent issuing on the present application that extends beyond the expiration of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,677,138, 6,420,140, 6,207,418, and 5,916,771. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that they have overcome the rejections of Claims 24-38.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the only remaining rejections of the instant application have been overcome. Allowance of the instant application is therefore respectfully requested.

### **CONCLUSION**

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to the rejection set forth in the Office Action and to place the claims in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain, or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned to discuss such issues.

**Application No.:** 10/719,006  
**Filing Date.:** November 20, 2003

No Disclaimers or Disavowals


Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, the Applicants are not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that the Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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